

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 07203 221314 Z

41

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-07 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

/079 W

----- 024350

R 220828 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6135

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 7203

AIDAC

E. O. 11652 GDS

SUB: IMPAC PROJECT

REF: MANILA 6609

1. EMBASSY/ USAID HAVE REASSESSED DESIRABLILITY OF PROCEEDING WITH IMPAC PROJECT IN LIGHT OF THE DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED REFTEL LEADING TOWARD ORGANIZATION OF A SINGLE POLICE FORCE FOR METROPOLITAN MANILA AREA AND THE RESULTING NEED FOR NEW GUIDELINES TO RESPOND TO INQUIRIES AS TO PROSPECTS FOR IMPAC.

2. OUR CONSIDERED ON - BALANCE JUDGEMENT IS THAT PROJECT ALONG LINES OF THAT CURRENTLY PROPOSED RETAINS ITS ESSENTIAL MERIT. A CONSOLIDATION OF GOVERNMENTS IN THE MANILA AREA SEEMS CLEARLY TO BE UNDERWAY, AND POLICE REORGANIZATION IS LOGICALLY AN EARLY STEP IN THE PROCESS. OVER THE LONG HAUL, IMPROVEMENT IN POLICE CAPABILITIES AND PERFORMANCE WILL BE ONE OF SUREST WAYS OF DIMINISHING AND THEN ELIMINATING THE RATIONALE FOR MILITARY ASSUMPTION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS. ALTHOUGH IN SHORT- TERM THE PROSPECTIVE CENTRALIZED POLICE AUTHORITY MAY WELL FALL UNDER CONSTABULARY (PC) COMMAND, WE BELIEVE THERE WILL CONTINUE TO BE A CONSIDERABLE-- AND IN FUTURE INCREASED-- CIVILIAN ORIENTATION OF MANILA AREA POLICE FORCES. THERE IS NOT LIKELY TO BE SOON A BETTER OPPORTUNITY FOR ASSISTANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 07203 221314 Z

TO UPGRADE POLICE EFFECTIVENESS THAN THAT AFFORDED BY PRESENT MARTIAL LAW LEADERSHIP AND STIMULATION.

3. NEVERTHELESS WE ARE AWARE OF SOME STRONG OPPOSITION IN CONGRESS TO AID FINANCING OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECTS. EMBASSY SUPPORTS USAID IN WISHING TO AVOID CHARGES, HOWEVER UNFOUNDED, THAT U. S. IS " SUPPORTING CIVIL REPRESSION" THROUGH POLICE ASSISTANCE, WITH RISK OF UNDERCUTTING U. S. SUPPORT FOR OTHER PROMISING REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN PHILIPPINES. DESPITE WHAT SEEMS TO US THE COMPELLING LOGIC OF PARA 2 ABOVE, WE REALIZE THAT UNDER MARTIAL LAW CONDITIONS AID SUPPORT OF A NEW PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECT COULD BECOME PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO CRITICISM.

4. IF, THEREFORE, WASHINGTON AGENCIES SHOULD CONCLUDE THAT AID FINANCING OF THIS VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO GOP PEACE AND ORDER EFFORT MAY JEOPARDIZE ABILITY TO SUPPORT TOTAL U. S. EFFORT IN PHILIPPINES, WE WOULD PREFER FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE TO IMPAC, AS PREVIOUSLY FORMULATED, OVER TOTAL ABANDONMENT OF IT:

GOP SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT DUE TO CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION TO FINANCING PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECT WITHIN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AID NOT PLANNING FINANCE IMPAC PROJECT BUT WOULD BE PREPARED ASSIST GOP WITH PROJECT ON FULLY GOP SELF- FINANCED BASIS. IN ORDER TO SOFTEN BLOW, WE SHOULD INDICATE AT SAME TIME THAT \$500,000 OF PREVIOUSLY PLANNED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS FOR IMPAC WILL BE RE- PROGRAMMED FOR PRIORITY AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (WHICH IN ANY CASE ARE SHORT OF FUNDS). IF GOP ELECTED FINANCE COST OF U. S. TECHNICIANS AND USE AID PROCUREMENT FACILITIES, ETC., AID WOULD NOT BE TOTALLY UNINVOLVED IN POLICE ACTIVITY BUT WOULD BE REMOVED FROM FINANCING.

5. ALTHOUGH LOCAL AUTHORITIES MOST CONCERNED WITH POLICE DEVELOPMENT WOULD ALMOST SURELY BE APPREHENSIVE THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN ALLOCATION OF ALTERNATE FUNDS FOR COMMODITIES AND TRAINING, PRESIDENT MARCOS MIGHT WELL BE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH AN OFFER TO SHIFT FUNDS TO AGRIC/ RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS HE NOW GIVING VERY HIGH PRIORITY. WE FAIRLY CERTAIN POLICE COMMISSION ATTACHES SUFFICIENT PRIORITY TO USAID PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT IMPAC BE CARRIED OUT ON SELF- FINANCED BASIS MORE OR LESS AS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 07203 221314 Z

ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

6. PLEASE ADVISE.
HAMILTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MANILA07203
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730626/aaaajkhb.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 MANILA 6609
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <29-Aug-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980219
Subject: IMPAC PROJECT
TAGS: EAID, n/a
To: AID
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005